

A1 / Amended
particle that comprises the compound and a costimulatory ligand comprising CD28 or a portion thereof.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the compound is a nucleic acid molecule. / B

4. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the compound is DNA that comprises a nucleotide sequence that encodes a protein operably linked to regulatory elements functional in the cell.

A2
5. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the compound is DNA that comprises a nucleotide sequence that encodes an immunogenic protein operably linked to regulatory elements functional in the cell.

6. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the compound is DNA that comprises a nucleotide sequence that encodes a non-immunogenic protein operably linked to regulatory elements functional in the cell.

Sub B2 / A2
8. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the cell that expresses costimulatory molecules is a dendritic cell or a macrophage.

Sub B3 / A2
13. (Amended) A method of delivering a therapeutic protein to an individual comprising

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the step of administering to tissue of said individual at a site on said individual's body, a particle that comprises a nucleic acid molecule that encodes a therapeutic protein, and a costimulatory ligand comprising CD28 or a portion thereof.

Please add the following new claims.

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32. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the costimulatory ligand comprises the extracellular region of CD28.

33. (New) The method of claim 10 wherein the viral protein portion of the fusion protein comprises HIV-1 gp41 or a portion thereof.

a5

34. (New) The method of claim 33 wherein said viral protein portion of the fusion protein comprises the transmembrane and cytoplasmic regions of HIV-1 gp41.

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35. (New) The method of claim 34 wherein said costimulatory ligand portion of the fusion protein comprises the extracellular region of CD28.

36. (New) The method of claim 35 wherein the compound is a nucleic acid molecule.

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37. (New) The method of claim 35 wherein the compound is DNA.

38. (New) The method of claim 35 wherein the compound is DNA that comprises a nucleotide sequence that encodes a protein operably linked to regulatory elements functional in the cell.

39. (New) The method of claim 35 wherein the compound is DNA that comprises a nucleotide sequence that encodes an immunogenic protein operably linked to regulatory elements functional in the cell.

40. (New) The method of claim 35 wherein the compound is DNA that comprises a nucleotide sequence that encodes an non-immunogenic protein operably linked to regulatory elements functional in the cell.

41. (New) The method of claim 35 wherein the cell that expresses costimulatory molecules is a dendretic cell or a macrophage.

42. (New) The method of claim 35 wherein the particle is a viral particle, a protein complex, a liposome or a cationic amphiphile/DNA complex.

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 31 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 4 to 6, 8, and 13 have been